TARC NEWSLETTER

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

DECEMBER, 1995

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Charles Fagel KR4YZ 267-1475 SECRETARY: Bobbi Sue Wood AD4VV 268-8537
V.PRESIDENT: Tom Nguyen AD4NA 636-6663 TREASURER: Clyde Lee K4EOS 267-9375

CLUB INFORMATION

TARC Meetings: Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs at Jaycee Building
TARC Nets: VIP - Thursdays at 1000 hrs on 146.910
Friendship - Thursdays at 1830 hrs on 146.910
Mosquito - Wednesdays at 1900 hrs on 28.333
TARC Repeaters: VHF - 146.910 and 146.970. UHF - 444.150

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Charles Fagel KR4YZ

November 11 was the day of our annual hamfest. The event was enjoyable and a success. Even the weather cooperated and we had a great day. A big thank you to Cliff KC4SYD and all the workers for a job well done. A special bouquet to the ladies for some excellent food, well served, and a thank you to you, the members, for your support.

On the 28th, we will have our regular monthly meeting, which will have a full and important agenda. The following items will be acted upon:

The election of officers and board for 1996. In addition to the slate proposed by the nominating committee, nominations may be made from the floor.

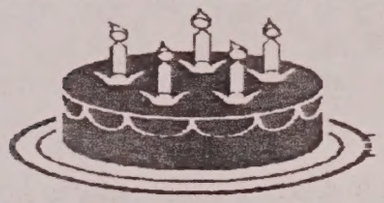
Because of the Halloween activities at the Jaycee building last month, our meeting was held at the DAV building next door. An offer was made to us at that time to hold our meetings there permanently on a no cost basis. It was decided that we would delay our decision until the November meeting, at which time we will call for comments and a vote on staying at the Jaycee building or moving to the DAV effective with the January meeting. We would like to point out that our moving would in no way effect the support which TARC gives to Jaycee activities.

Also on the agenda will be the voting on the Ham of the Year. The slate is made up of those persons nominated by the members.

This year the Jaycees annual Christmas parade will be held on December 9 - the second Saturday - instead of the usual first Saturday in December. We need lots of help on this one. We need 30 to 40 operators. We will meet at THS parking lot at 4:00 p.m.. Come on down and join the fun, and see the parade at the same time.
Don't forget the Christmas party on Friday, December 15, at Royal Oak Country Club. Tickets available from Les K4SJC or Pike W4EPU at $15.00 per person which includes tax and tip. There will be a voluntary exchange of gifts which should look like more, but not cost more than $5.00. The party is always a great fun affair, so how about joining us in the fun.

In closing, by and large '95 has been a good year, and as rough as it may have been, we all have something to be thankful for on the coming Thanksgiving Day. Our very best wishes to you and yours for a very enjoyable Holiday Season. If you like to eat like I do, keep the Tums handy.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



DEC. 2 WB4ZUZ THERESA VALEK
DEC. 2 KD4LDR BILL DiMEO
DEC. 3 KS4FB TED LARRABEE
DEC. 4 AD4PC DICK SHORE
DEC. 5 KF4AZN KEN WATSON, JR.
DEC. 6 N4LEM RAY KASSIS
DEC. 8 K3KS DAN BOYLE
DEC. 8 WD4JSX DON HATFIELD
DEC. 8 KE4KCT CHARLES FROST
DEC. 9 KC4VIO JOSE RAMOS
DEC. 10 KC4UUX ALAN MARSDEN
DEC. 11 KE4RIV CHUCK MANION
DEC. 11 KB4BHS GLENN LEE
DEC. 11 KC4UFI JERRY RUSSELL
DEC. 11 N4VIV AL SCHWAGER
DEC. 12 AF4N WES WHITLEY
DEC. 15 KE4LNQ PAT THOMAS
DEC. 16 W0LRC COFFEE COFFMAN
DEC. 18 AC4DY TOM BURNS
DEC. 19 KE4ICM RANDY WADE
DEC. 19 KE4KMU GENE HALL
DEC. 20 KE4WWO MADDIE ADAMS
DEC. 20 KE4MXA NOEL ELLIXSON
DEC. 20 N4KXH KEN WINDHAM
DEC. 20 KE4MWY DAN CHYCOTA
DEC. 21 KD4RLT WILLIAM MERRILL
DEC. 24 KD4VFQ KAY WATSON
DEC. 24 KE4SXU JOAN HOAG
DEC. 25 W2STS JESS LEGRAND
DEC. 27 KE4UUO JOSEPH HOLCOMB
DEC. 28 KB4ETY BRUCE HUNTER
DEC. 29 KE4EJ SANDY WHITLEY
DEC. 31 AD4CU PAT PATTERSON

HEY! TARC HAMFESTERS!

Many thanks to the participating TARC members who worked our HAMFEST on 11 November.

We received many positive comments from vendors and visitors alike. Our visitors, vendors and "tail-gatters" were delighted with our effort - not the least of which was the food and the delightful "culinary artists" who prepared it.

It is difficult to commend any one member when all of the participating members did such a fine job in making the HAMFEST a real success.

"Above and beyond the call. . . . . ." We commend WN3DHI, Archie for his quick work in supplying AC power to one of our tailgaters who needed oxygen quickly. Well done, Arch.

We are currently making notes for next year's Fest, titled "Lessons Learned". If you have any suggestions to improve next year's HAMFEST please submit them to the 1996 secretary.

The time to start planning the 1996 HAMFEST is NOW. Thank you all again for a good job, well done.

Cliff, KC4SYD - Chairman (retired) - 1995 HAMFEST

AMATEUR RADIO SAVES LIFE

Amateur radio has been credited with saving the life of a shooting victim.

On Monday, September 25, 40 year old Rory Clark, KD6RKL of Citrus Heights, a Sacramento suburb, was shot while standing at a bank automatic teller machine. Using his hand held transceiver, he called for help on a local repeater. The repeater owner and operator, Chris Huber, N6ICW, was listening and autopatched the call to 911, according to ARRL Sacramento Valley Public Information Officer John Arnot, KD6SSZ.

Huber helped Clark in passing information to the 911 operator about his location, condition and suspects. This assistance, and "the ability to contact a listening ham operator on the spot saved Rory's life", in the words of local authorities.

The story was covered by all three television network affiliate stations, which focused not only on the crime and victim, but also on Clark's ability to call for help with his hand held.

Huber was interviewed by two of the three TV stations. One of the stations interviewed a sales clerk at the local

Amateur Radio retail outlet, The Radio Place, about the positive aspects of ham radio. The taped conversation between Clark, Huber, and the 911 operator was played on the news broadcasts.

Local hams rushed to his and his family's assistance, and continue to be of support, Arnot said. Among them was Jim Rosima, KD6SSW, who took Clark's family to the hospital after the incident.

Rory Clark is in critical condition but is expected to live. He was shot once with a rifle from behind. Authorities attribute his survival to his call for help via ham radio.

AUTOMATIC LICENSE RENEWAL

From Amateur Radio Newsline #947

The FCC has begun mailing notices of upcoming amateur license expirations. Those amateurs whose licenses would expire in December 1995 are being sent, by first class mail, a computer generated Form 610-R short form.

The new Form 610-R may be signed, dated, and returned to the FCC to renew the license, provided that no changes are needed. For other changes along with renewal, it will be necessary to file a regular FCC Form 610.

The Commission's Gettysburg facility expects to mail more than 5000 such notices covering expirations from December 1 to December 20, 1995. By the way, there is no government fee for an amateur radio license renewal.

In a related story, for some time the ARRL has been sending license expiration notices as a free membership service. That service will be discontinued once the new FCC program is established and is fully operational.

THE BIRTH OF TITUSVILLE'S HAMFEST

By Carole Ann KC4VIN and Jose KC4VIO

"Wow!!! This is a lot of fun." That was Carole Ann's comment after attending a couple of hamfests once she became KC4VIN. Then came the obvious question, "When is TARC having theirs?" Boy, was she ever disappointed to find out that Titusville had never had a hamfest. Her brain started churning and wondering how one could be initiated in this great city of ours. Little did she know that her prayers were soon to be answered.

In October 1991 TARC was invited by W4GMW, Neale Cranston, to give a demonstration of amateur communications at the fly-in activities that were being held at Arthur Dunn Air Park by the Experimental Aircraft Association.

Not wanting to miss the opportunity to inform the public about the club's activities, it was agreed to set up a portable station to demonstrate communication capabilities of ham equipment. It did not take long for Carole Ann to also see this event as a great place to do some equipment swapping or better yet, how about a tail gate party? The idea grew fast, the word was spread out through the airwaves, flyers were made and distributed and before we knew it, we had ourselves Titusville's first "Ham & Swap Tailgate Party

The day of the event was blessed with gorgeous Florida weather. Tables appeared from nowhere, a talk-in frequency started operating and many helped with the parking. About twenty tailgaters displayed their bargains, the Mosquito Net conducted a Special Event for the occasion and to the amazement of many, people started to arrive. Some were locals, many came from other parts of the county, Orlando was well represented, Daytonians came to check us out, a couple came from Jacksonville and twin brothers came all the way from Waycross, Georgia. All in all it was a great weekend and plans started immediately for the second round the following year.

The Experimental Aircraft Association invited us to once again be part of their program for 1992 but realizing our tailgate success, offered us a larger field just east of the airport. The entire club membership supported the project by creating and participating in the necessary committees. Advertising started early in the year by distributing flyers at various hamfests and notifying related publications. Many XYL's were bitten by the hamfest bug and decided to help out by providing snacks and drinks for those attending.

October came upon us sooner than we realized and much to our worries so did the rain. Attention was paid to every detail, the field was mowed, Mosquito Control was requested to spray, spaces were marked, job assignments were made, and just in case, everyone kept an eye on the weather. The day finally arrived and as we feared, so did the rain. It rained, rained and rained. Do you think that was going to ruin the day? No way Jose!! The number of tailgaters swelled to over forty,

attendees were near two hundred. Umbrellas were everywhere as were the blue and orange tarpaulins provided by the club. Great deals were made between those looking for rainy day bargains and the tailgaters wanting to sell out before more rain came. The food was so great it sold out in no time and a run for more goodies had to be made. There was a festive feeling among all who were there and many were surprised to receive door (or should I say field) prizes. You had to be there!!

When the day was over we all looked at each other tired and wet, but with a smile on our faces. We all knew a tradition had been born - Titusville's own hamfest.

MORSE CODE

From Grolier Electronic Publishing, Inc.
Submitted by Ken KD4HNW

Morse code is a SIGNALING code first devised by Samuel F .B. Morse in 1838 for use with his electromagnetic TELEGRAPH. The code used two basic symbols or signaling elements: the "dot" - a short duration electric current which gave a quick deflection of the armature of Morse's receiver and so caused a dot to be printed on the strip of paper moving beneath the ink pen carried by the armature: and the "dash" - a longer duration signal that caused a dash to be printed. Using this code, the various alphanumeric characters that compose a message (letters and numerals) could be represented by groups of these two signal elements. In the international Morse code, for example, one dot followed by one dash (.-) symbolizes the letter A. The number seven appears as "dash dash dot dot dot" (--...). The dot and dash elements are separated by an interval that has the duration of one dot. The dash has a duration equal to three dots. The space between characters, whether letters or numbers, is equal to three dot units. The separation between words is six units. Morse's code rapidly gained acceptance and evolved into several forms: Early Morse, American Morse and International Morse. In its international form it is still in use.

Although Morse devised his code for use with a printing telegraph, he and his colleague Alfred Vail soon realized that messages could easily be read from the sound of the clicking armature. When the printer was replaced by a simple buzzer, the operator could read the message from the sequence of dots and dashes. Radio telegraphy was introduced in 1897, and Morse code was again employed. In early use the radio signal would cause a sensitive relay to operate the local printer or buzzer circuit. Similarly, Morse code was applied to the left and right beats of the needle of the submarine telegraph and the light flashes produced by a signaling lamp used between ships at sea. Morse's work dominated signal coding practice well into the 20th century.
Eric Eastwood - Bibliography: Carron, Morse Code: The Essential Language (1986)

HELP NEEDED . . .

From November Spurious Emissions

Dear Sir:
I need your help. I live next door to a lunatic who makes my life a living hell with a radio transmitter. When I try to watch Geraldo, the television develops patterns, bars and buzzes. And when Geraldo does appear, he's green. My cow has gone dry, the dog ran away, and that idiot ran over my cat! Also my daughter's moral fiber has eroded, if you know what I mean. Just this morning when I went to put my teeth in, a big spark jumped from my upper plate to the lower! That man is a menace! I called the FCC and even the local police, but they're no help. What can I do about this nut?

Thelma Niedermeier
Broken Elbow, Oklahoma

Dear Mrs. Niedermeier:
Too bad about the cat. Could I have your daughter's phone number?

Sincerely, the editor

by E.J.Wagner, N5SNW, from the 4/95 American Airlines ARC "Ham Happenings". Don Geigel, WD5EHU, Editor via the ARNS Bulletin, Dave Barton, AF6S, Editor

YOU KNOW YOU ARE A HAM WHEN . . . . . .

The only time you get up at 6 AM is for a hamfest.

You know you can run all your home appliances on your personal back-up power.

You have breakfast with a guy in England every morning.

Your ARES/RACES/MARS bags are always packed.

The cute girl with the "KISS" T-shirt asks you what bands you like and you answer "two and twenty meters".

You live in a shack

A clerk asks you to spell your name and you do so phonetically.

In a conversation, you wait for the courtesy tone before speaking.

You hear a scraping sound when driving through the fast-food restaurant window lane.

A band opening is more important than a grand opening.

Sight-seeing amounts to looking at rooftops for antennas.

This was in one of the local club newsletters. I don't know who wrote it originally, but I know I can relate to most of the above. Have you any suggestions for additions to the list?
73, Mike KB3RG

'PRIVATIZING'

Per the FCC

The FCC is considering "privatizing" the resolution of radio frequency interference to consumer electronics devices. Under the plan, private repair shops would be used to fix problems "in the field."

FCC representatives spelled out the Commission's concept at a meeting in Tampa, saying "Since it is not feasible for the Commission to attempt to resolve these complaints" (the most of which come from Citizens Band operation), "it is our policy not to investigate interference to home electronic equipment. Likewise, we do not offer any protection from interference."

Over the past several years, the FCC has been "unofficially" out of the "retail" RFI business, and parties who contact the FCC about an interference problem are asked to work together toward a resolution.

Depending on what the local repair shop found, either the shop would fix the equipment or, in the case of a violation of FCC rules, the service shop would refer the case back to the FCC for possible FCC action. The question of who would pay was not addressed.

The ARRL, which had responded to an FCC request for input before the meeting, was represented at the meeting by several local volunteer officials, in consultation with ARRL Laboratory Supervisor Ed Hare, KA1CV.

YL NOTES

By Connie Dunn KB5LES (from QSL)

YLs use the term 33 on the air. Like 73, 33 is used at the end of a conversation and means "love and friendship" between YLs. Likewise, 88 is translated as "love and kisses." An *Elmira* is an experienced YL who helps out another ham. *Eyelash* QSOs happen when two licensed women have a conversation in person. *Harmonics* are the offspring of a YL and OM. When harmonics are licensed, they also may be OMs and YLs.

EDITOR'S DESK

TARC's 1995 hamfest is history, and I would like to thank all the people who put a lot of work into it. However, I also noted that the same few people who always participate in TARC activities carried on as usual. This club is not just a chosen few. We are over 200 bodies strong, but the evening before the hamfest, when there were tables, etc. to be moved, only about a dozen people showed up, not all of whom were able bodied. It would seem to me that is a pretty poor showing of support for our club's main project for the year. Also, after the hamfest, one person remained to do the cleanup of the grounds. Had it not been for the help of the two county employees (this is not part of their job) that one member would have been all alone to do the clean up. I think it behooves each member to do some soul searching and think about this sad situation. Let's have more help in our club projects, especially from the young, able bodied members.

FOR SALE
60" E-Z-WAY TOWER W/CDR ROTOR
NEW WINCH AND ROTOR CABLES
$750
CALL CARL KF4JI
632-5735

TREASURERS REPORT

By K4EOS Clyde Lee

BALANCE FORWARD FROM 1994	1,070.58
DEPOSITS Year to date	5,537.29
TOTAL INCOME	$6,607.87
EXPENDITURES	5,064.29
BALANCE AS AT 10/31/95	$1,543.58

OCTOBER MEETING

By Bobbi Sue Wood AD4VV

The meeting was called to order by KR4YZ Chuck at 1905 hrs. in the Disabled American Veterans Building. The change in location was necessary because of the Jaycees Haunted House schedule. Fortunately, Bubba KE4BBP found us a marvelous home for our meeting, and it surely was a most pleasant surprise! Large, Clean, Climate controlled, well lighted, speaker system, etc. Thank you, Bubba.

After the normal "prelims" the following items were discussed:

1. Cliff KC4SYD discussed the final plans for the upcoming hamfest. All is progressing as planned, and Cliff anticipates a very successful event. Cliff noted that he has scheduled a "thank you" to our vets by a brief memorial progran at 1100 hrs., eleventh day, eleventh month. Ralph AE4LE will chair this program. Good work, Cliff.
2. Mike KE4MWZ and Arnold KF4CEM are planning to start the "Elmers Net", scheduled for Saturday mornings at 1000 hours. The intent is to provide a "practice" arena to permit new club members to become used to their equipment and become familiar with radio procedures.
3. Tom AD4NA announced the recommendations of the nominating committee for members consideration for the 1996 officers and board members. They are:

President: KE4YZ Chuck and K4CWG Bud
V. President: W4VQB Bob and KE4MWZ Mike
Secretary: WD4JNM Marty
Treasurer K4EOS Clyde
Directors: W4VQB Bob, KD4VFQ Kay, KE4MWZ Mike

Mike KE4MWC advised he was unable to accept either nomination, though he appreciated the consideration.

4.Tom AD4NA noted that Kay KD4VFQ and Pike W4EPU have been nominated for Ham of the Year. Winner to be announced at the Christmas party.
5. Les K4SJC advised the problem with the 97 repeater seemed to be the result of moisture in the antenna, and hopes this has been corrected.
6. Pike W4EPU gave an update on the Christmas party to be held at Royal Oaks Club on December 15. Social hour starting at 1800 hrs. The menu choices are prime rib or chicken at $15 per. Pike and Clara have on tap an evening of fun and entertainment.
7. Les K4SJC advised the members that it is necessary to purchase one or two safety harnessses for our members who service the repeater antennas. Such devices are a legal requirement and we are somewhat tardy in not having them. The members voted to purchase two harnesses at a cost of approximately $200 each.
8. Bubba advised the members that the DAV facility is available for monthly meetings at no cost. Chuck KE4YZ thanked him for the offer, and noted he will ask the for a vote on the offer at the next regular meeting.
9. Chuck KR4YZ presented to the members a proposal to update the club by-laws in order to reflect current club conditions and current club circumstances. He noted that he will submit this again in the near future to the members for their vote. He summarized the significant changes as:

1.Elimination of lifetime board membership as a result of being a repeater custodian.
2.Definition of standing committees in particular the Technical Committee.
3.Limitation of the immediate past president as director to one year.
4.A Properties Committee to maintain accountability of club property.
5.Simplifying club membership definitions and processing.
6.Assigning more responsibilities to the directors to insure appropriate attention to business matters and to reduce the time given to such matters during general meetings.
7. Provide a more expeditious way to amend theby-laws.

As you can see from the above, I have declined a nomination to be considered as your secretary for the next year. I have much enjoyed my two years in your service. It has been very rewarding and a personal fulfilling experience for me. I thank you all for your kindness and your friendship.

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

By Pike W4EPU

Along about this time of the year is when we start sending Christmas cards or, at least start thinking about it. Sometimes we wait almost too long and tend to take shortcuts writing Christmas or gift cards.

One very convenient shortcut is to write Xmas instead of Christmas. Substituting "X" for "Christ"? To some that almost seems sacrilegious. But is it? The following should shed some light on the subject or at least provide food for thought.

Back around the time when the Apostle Paul was preaching Christianity in Greece and other European countries, to Christians "X" really meant "Christian" or "Christ". Because they were being persecuted, it was a secret code known only to themselves. When an X was seen in a marketplace or on a house, it meant to other Christians that the vendor or resident was Christian and therefore could be trusted.

Nowadays people, possibly taking shortcuts, are sometimes unknowingly using a symbol meaning Christ, dating all the way back to the very early days of Christianity.

Merry Xmas, 73s es 88s

= =

Yes, Virginia, there WAS a Santa Clause. Reports have been slow to emerge, but here is what I've been able to piece together about his demise.

Do you remember the year when there were stories about Santa's sleigh running over little old ladies? I think there was even a song written about someone's grandmother being done in that way. Apparently, that year was Santa's last trip. It seems that the reindeer were in an especially foul mood. It didn't help things, when someone started the rumor about Rudolph receiving special treatment just prior to the trip. Needless to say, reports of reckless sleigh driving came from all over the world that year.

That was the year I happened to catch Santa on 20 Meters, as he was returning home from the trip. He was operating as Santa1, up near the top of the band, trying to unwind after the grueling delivery schedule. He did seem to be a bit grouchy, and complained about rebellious reindeer. We signed off as he arrived home. I happened to leave the receiver on, and noticed that someone had either left their VOX turned on, or sat something on their microphone button. I could hear noises in the background, as if someone tripped and fell down. It was followed by what sounded like hoofs pounding and someone screaming. Then it abruptly ended, as if someone had bumped the microphone and released the button.

In a few seconds, I recovered and put out a call to see what might have happened. After several tries, I heard an excited voice using the callsign ELF27. He was too excited to say much then, but after about 20 minutes he came back again. He proceeded to describe what he had found. Santa had apparently slipped or lost his footing, and fallen. Then, he was attacked by the team of 8 reindeer. Once Santa succumbed to the trampling, they turned their wrath toward Rudolph. ELF27 described a scene where body parts were everywhere, with Rudolph's bloody, still glowing nose lying in the gory snow.

ELF27 and I maintained a regular schedule for a long time after that. He kept me informed about the Elves recovering from their grief, and about efforts to find a replacement for Santa.

As you probably realize, most of the world is not aware this happened to Santa at all. One year later, there was a "new" Santa making the annual trip. ELF27 related that one of the other elves (ELF45) was very good at politics. After the tragedy he emerged as a natural leader, and had virtually no opposition.

The widow, Mrs. Claus, took a liking to him, and before the year had elapsed they were married. Now, if you think it odd for a young Elf to go for an elderly widow, you must understand that although Santa was quite old, he had outlived several wives. The widow was actually quite young and attractive, so ELF45 had no hesitation.

I haven't talked to ELF27 for some time. He did mention that ELF45 had adopted the SANTA1 callsign, and can sometimes be heard at the top end of 20 Meters, late Christmas Eve. 73, Fred, K4DII

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 276. (210 regular, 61 family, 5 honorary)

NEW MEMBERS: KF4BRL ERIC HEARD
KF4BRY JOE HUSSON
KE4DTC ABBIE MARSDEN
KE4HIX WILLIAM THOMAS III

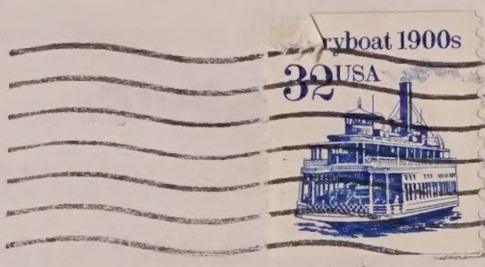
RENEWALS: WA4CUO BILL HOSKINSON
KE4GOP BERNIE FLANAGAN
KD4GPF JOE MEYERS
W9IOS BILL KARR
WD4JLT BRIAN SONNENBERG
WD4JNM MARTY COIN
K4KON BRUCE HOOVER
KE4RIV CHUCK MANION
NOT YET PENNY COPELAND
KD4RLT WILLIAM MERRILL
KC4YDP JERRY RICHARDS

HAMFEST CALENDAR

12/2	Okeechobee FL
12/2	Dotham, AL
12/2	Ocala FL
12/9	Lake City, FL
1/6,7	Fort Meyers
1/13,14	Sarasota
1/20	Crystal River
1/21	Pinellas Park
2/3,4	Miami
2/10	Arcadia
2/10	Pensacola
2/17,18	Orlando
2/24	Brooksville
3/2	Zephyrhills
3/9	Lake Worth
3/16,17	Ft. Walton Beach
3/23	Stuart
3/23	Sebring

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073

MID-FLORIDA PDC FL 327
PM
22 NOV
1995



KR4YZ 03-01-96
Charles Fagel
4954 Squires Dr.
Titusville FL 32796-1067